



Summer 2002

## **WHERE THE FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION DOLLARS ARE SPENT: ANNUAL LISTING OF PROJECT OBLIGATIONS**

The PDCTC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a listing of transportation projects over a five year period that which will be paid for at least in part with money from the Federal Highway Administration or Federal Transit Administration. Our current TIP was approved in August 2001, and covers the years 2002 through 2006. The TIP lists for each project the intended schedule and the estimated cost for each phase of the project. Project schedules often change as a result of personnel or consultant availability for design activities, or changes in budget resource availability. Thus, the TIP does not yield an accurate picture of actual project expenditures.

To ensure that the public will have an accurate understanding of how federal funds are actually being spent on transportation projects, Congress included in the Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, passed in 1998, a requirement that the organizations responsible for approving the Transportation Improvement Program publish an annual listing of project obligations.

### **What are "project obligations"?**

You might think of this as setting up a checking account for a specific purpose, and making an initial deposit. In order to begin work on any phase of a transportation project, federal funds must be obligated. This means that the money is set aside for that particular piece of work, and then can be used to pay bills. The project expenses may be bills from a design consultant, a construction contractor, or payroll costs for New York State DOT employees working on the project.

### **Do project obligations mean the work is underway?**

This is not always the case. Project accounts are set up, particularly for the initial phases of a project, to enable the work. It may take a while, for example, to select and hire a design consultant, and have them actually begin work.

### **What are "project phases"?**

Any transportation project, large or small, begins with an idea or plan and ends with construction. Here are the steps:

- **SCOPING:** Meetings are held with project developers and designers, local government representatives, and other involved parties. Decisions are made about the specific elements that will be included in the project, and the range of design of alternatives that will be investigated.
- **PRELIMINARY DESIGN:** This phase includes basic engineering work on each alternative, traffic studies, environmental analyses, and other work specific to the project. Public outreach is used to gain community input into project design. This phase ends with the selection and approval of a project alternative.
- **FINAL DESIGN:** In this phase, the actual plans and specifications that the construction contractor will work from are created.
- **RIGHT OF WAY INCIDENTALS:** Preparation work done prior to the acquisition of the right-of-way.
- **RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION:** In this phase, right-of-way necessary for the completion of a project is acquired either through purchase or easements.

- **CONSTRUCTION:** This encompasses all of the work to build the project, whether it is done by a contractor or an agency's own staff.
- **CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION:** In order to make sure that the work is being done properly and conforms to specifications, there is ongoing inspection. Sometimes this work is done by NYSDOT or Dutchess County Public Works employees, but it is often contracted out.
- **OTHER:** This phase is associated with transit projects, and corresponds to the construction phase of the highway improvements, in that it represents that phase of the project where in the proposed improvement is actually implemented. For transit projects, this usually involves the purchase and acquisition of rolling stock and associated equipment, though in some cases, such as for station, parking, and maintenance/storage facilities, the construction of fixed or permanent facilities is undertaken.

### **Project Listing**

The inside table lists all projects on the PDCTC TIP that had funds obligated during Federal Fiscal Year 2001 (October 1, 2000 – September 30, 2001). It indicates which project phases were active.

### **For more information contact:**

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**Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council**  
**ANNUAL LISTING OF FEDERAL AID PROJECT OBLIGATION FOR FFY 2001**

**FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION FUNDS**

PIN #	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	SPONSOR	PROJECT PHASES OBLIGATED IN FFY 2001	TOTAL OBLIGATION (\$ MILLION)
800147	Route 9G Northern Intersections Stage 1: Traffic Engineering and Safety/Operational Improvements at selected intersections. From Poughkeepsie To Rhinebeck.	NYSDOT	Detailed Design Right of Way Incidentals Right of Way Acquisitions	0.073
800908	Route 115 Over Little Wappingers Creek: Bridge Replacement. Town of Pleasant Valley	NYSDOT	Right of Way Incidentals	0.033
801039	Route 9 Landscaping: Median Improvements from Sharon Drive to Wappinger Creek. Town of Poughkeepsie	NYSDOT	Construction Construction Inspections	1.253
802139	Route 52: I 84 - Route 9: Resurfacing. Town and Village of Fishkill	NYSDOT	Right of Way Incidentals Right of Way Acquisitions Construction Construction Inspections	4.762
812660	TSP @ CR 42 (Arthursburg Road): Improvements to Arthursburg Road; Provide Northbound Exit. Town of LaGrange	NYSDOT	Preliminary Design	0.166
875541	CR 21 (Noxon Road) - Route 55 - CR 49:(Titusville Road): Safety Improvements. Town of LaGrange.	Dutchess County	Preliminary Design Detailed Design Right of Way Incidentals	0.220
875601	CR 26 (Dover Furnace Road)/Harlem Valley Railroad: Bridge Replacement. Town of Dover	Dutchess County	Preliminary Design Detailed Design Right of Way Incidentals	0.240
875698	Mansion Street Bridge/Fallkill Creek: Bridge Replacement/Rehabilitation. City of Poughkeepsie.	City of Poughkeepsie	Construction	0.300
875723	CR 21(Bruzgul Road)/Fishkill Creek: Bridge Replacement. Town of Union Vale	Dutchess County	Preliminary Design Detailed Design Right of Way Incidentals	0.211
880842	Sfy 02/03 Sidewalks Various	NYSDOT	Scoping Preliminary Design	0.110
8TR302	Bannerman Castle Trail: Restoration of Historic Trail System on Bannerman Island. Town of Fishkill	NYSDOT	Other	0.050
8TR402	Wildersteins Trail Development: New Trails; Drainage Improvement. Town of Rhinebeck	NYSDOT	Other	0.093
8TR602	Wappinger And Poughkeepsie Greenway Trail: Complete 10 Miles of Non-Motorized Trail. Towns of Poughkeepsie and Wappinger.	NYSDOT	Other	0.075

**FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FUNDS**

PIN #	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	SPONSOR	GRANT # OBLIGATED IN FFY 2001	TOTAL OBLIGATION (\$ MILLION)
882200	Transit Operations Assistance Section 5307: Funds used to help offset the operating costs of the Dutchess County LOOP and Dial-a-Ride systems. County of Dutchess	Dutchess County	NY-90-X453-00	0.378
882208	Transit Operations Assistance Section 5311: Funds to offset operating costs of providing transit service in the rural areas of Dutchess County. County of Dutchess	Dutchess County	NY-90-X453-00	0.055
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>8.019</b>

**SCOPING:** Meetings are held with project developers and designers, local government representatives, and other involved parties. Decisions are made about the specific elements that will be included in the project, and the range of design of alternatives that will be investigated.

**PRELIMINARY DESIGN:** This phase includes basic engineering work on each alternative, traffic studies, environmental analyses, and other work specific to the project. Public outreach is used to gain community input into project design. This phase ends with the selection and approval of a project alternative.

**FINAL DESIGN:** In this phase, the actual plans and specifications that the construction contractor will work from are created.

**RIGHT OF WAY INCIDENTALS:** Preparation work done prior to the acquisition of the right-of-way.

**RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION:** In this phase, right-of-way necessary for the completion of a project is acquired either through purchase or easements.

**CONSTRUCTION:** This encompasses all of the work to build the project, whether it is done by a contractor or an agency's own staff.

**CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION:** In order to make sure that the work is being done properly and conforms to specifications, there is ongoing inspection. Sometimes this work is done by NYSDOT or Dutchess County Public Works employees, but it is often contracted out.

**OTHER:** This phase is associated with transit projects, and corresponds to the construction phase of the highway improvements, in that it represents that phase of the project where in the proposed improvement is actually implemented. For transit projects, this usually involves the purchase and acquisition of rolling stock and associated equipment, though in some cases, such as for station, parking, and maintenance/storage facilities, the construction of fixed or permanent facilities is undertaken.